

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY **Bulgaria** REPORT  25X1

SUBJECT **Ravnets Airfield:** DATE DISTR. 3 September 1958

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REFERENCES  25X1

DATE OF INFO.  **ESSING COPY**

PLACE & DATE ACQ.  *Ref # 521*

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Size and Location

1. A Jet Fighter Regiment, which is subordinate to the Jet Fighter Division at Yambol, occupies Ravnets airfield which is approximately one kilometer northeast of Ravnets, Burgas Okoliya. The airfield covers an area approximately two by two and one-half kilometers in area and is surrounded by arable land. There are no fences around the field and the southern part of the field is marshy.

Runway

2. The runway was constructed in 1952 and 1953 by Trudovaks; the other buildings and installations on the field were constructed in 1954 and 1955. Because the runway follows the plane which is a natural continuation of Vayakyosko lake, northeast of Ravnets village  it follows a generally southeast to northwest direction. 25X1
3. It is a concrete runway, 1,500 to 2,000 meters long and 70 to 80 meters wide. It can handle the latest model jets. Because the southern part of the field is marshy, a special drainage system was built in 1954 and 1955. However, the ground of the airfield beyond the runway turns to deep, soft mud after a rain. 25X1
4. The airfield started operations in 1954 and it has the necessary facilities for night flights. Pilots on night flights out of Graf Ignatiev airfield are told that Ravnets airfield is an auxiliary field.

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Planes

5. There are 30 to 35 FAGOT's and FRESCO's at Ravnets airfield and these are parked in the following places, in the open, since there are no hangars on the field:
- Four parking platforms on the south side of the northwest end of the runway for jets on duty and jets awaiting take-off on flights.
  - Grass area in front of the headquarters building, toward the center of the field but away from the runway, for jets not prepared for flights.
6. There are always two jets on duty which are prepared for immediate flight upon the alert signal of a flare. The rest of the jets are prepared to take-off 30 minutes after alert.

Jet Fighter Regiment

7. Major Stefan Bozhilov is commander of the Jet Fighter Regiment at the airfield which includes a Supply Battalion and has an approximate strength of 150 officers, 50 non-commissioned officers and 200 enlisted men. Only 30 to 35 of the officers are jet pilots and they live on the field or in apartment houses in Ravnets village. The rest of the personnel live on the field or in Burgas from which there is daily bus and truck transportation to the airfield.

Description of the Airfield

8. The airfield is connected with Ravnets village by a gravel road on which the entrance to the field is guarded by a gate and barrier. Next to the entrance is a guardhouse, 8x4 meters in size, which is occupied by an officer on duty.
9. Fuel for the airfield is transported from Dolno Ezerovo village by ten ZIS-150 tank trucks.
10. The airfield contains the following buildings and installations:
- Headquarters building; two-story, L-shaped brick building, 12x8x6 meters in size.
  - Hospital; one-story brick building, 12x6 meters in size.
  - Mess hall and club for pilots; two-story brick building, 10x6 meters in size, with rooms on the second floor for bachelor pilots and guests.
  - Barracks, mess hall, kitchen, etc., for soldiers; two-story brick building, 11x8 meters in size.
  - Three one-story brick buildings, each 8x4 meters in size. The use of these buildings is not known.
  - Fire department; office only, 6x4 meters in size. The fire truck is parked in front of the building.
  - Garage; 8x14 meters in size.

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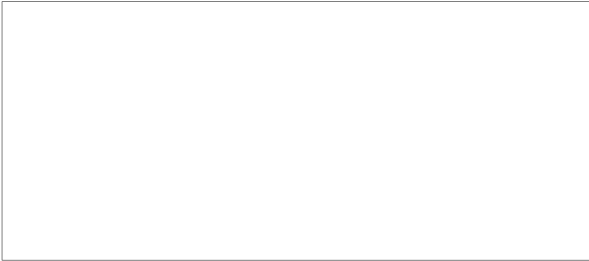


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 as an attachment to this report is a sketch with a legend attached of Ravnets airfield.



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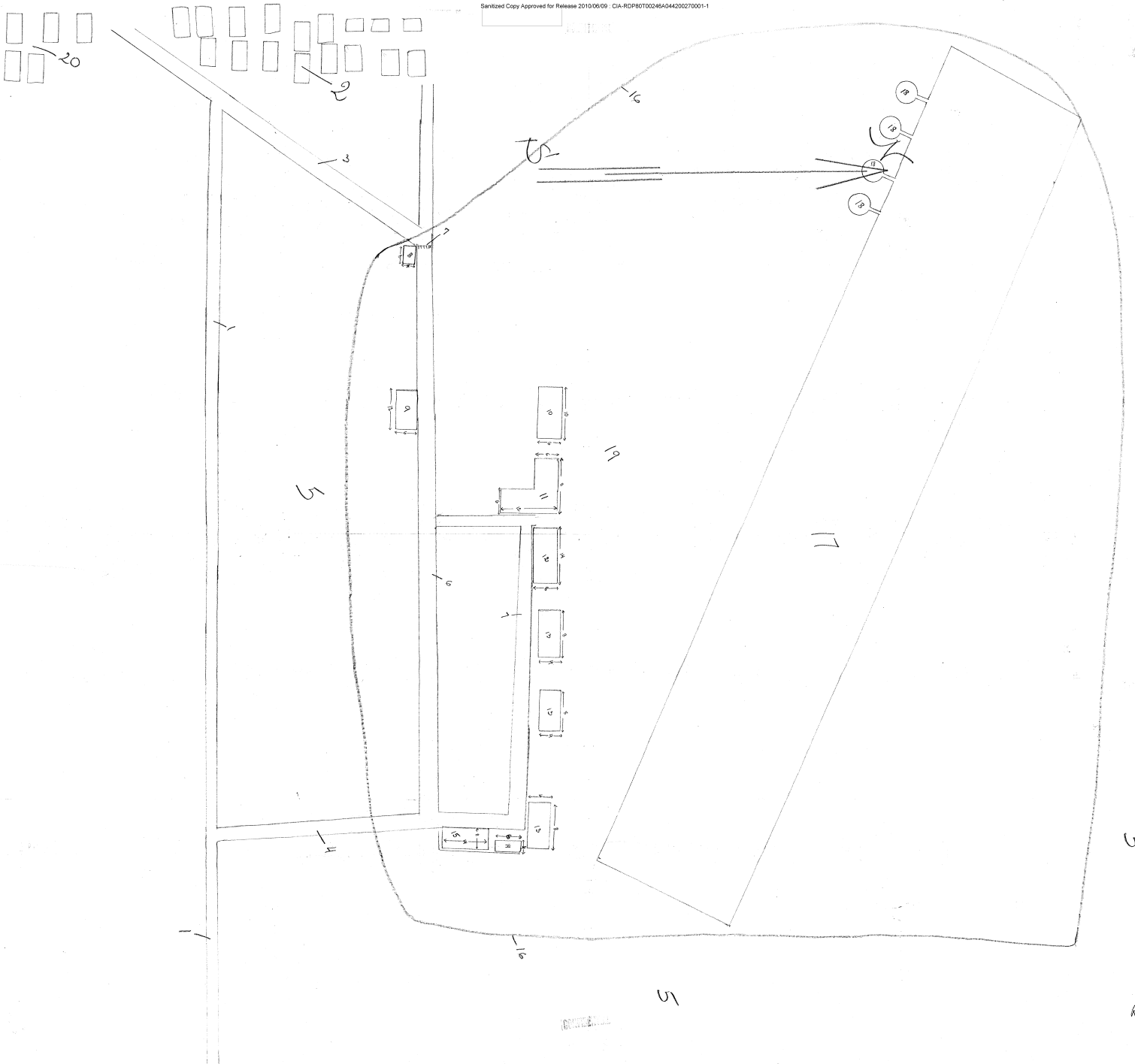
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ATTACHMENT

LEGEND TO THE SKETCH OF RAVNETS AIRFIELD

1. Burgas-Dolno Ezerovo-Ravnets road. The road is gravel.
2. Ravnets village.
3. Gravel road leading to the airfield.
4. Short cut to the airfield - a dirt road.
5. Arable land.
6. Roads inside the airfield.
7. Main entrance of the airfield - gate and barrier.
8. Guardhouse and office of the "officer-on-duty".
9. Hospital; one-story brick building.
10. Pilots' dining mess and club; two-story brick building. On the second floor are rooms for the single pilots and guests.
11. H.Q.; two-story brick building.
12. Soldiers' dormitory, dining mess, kitchen, etc., two-story brick building.
13. One-story brick buildings.
14. Fire department - only office; the fire truck is parked in front of the office.
15. Garage.
16. Border of the restricted zone around the airfield. The red line exists only on the sketch, because there are no fences around the airfield.
17. Runway.
18. Parking lots for the jets "on duty," and for the jets before take-off.
19. Place where the jets are parked when not used for flights.
20. Apartment houses for the personnel staff of the airfield.

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AIRFIELD